

# OYL SUMMER FLING 2009 POLICY PACKAGE

Brock University,  
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### **Policy on Restoring Integrity to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council**

**WHEREAS** the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) is an important source of federal funding for research in the humanities and social sciences,

**WHEREAS** January federal budget includes an increase of 20% in funding to SSHRC, but adds the sentence 'Scholarships granted by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council will be focused on business-related degrees,' a provision which could stop this important research,

**WHEREAS** research in the humanities and social sciences, although often without direct marketable results, is vital to the progress of Canadian civilization and culture,

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Ontario Young Liberals demand that the problematic sentence be removed and funding be restored to non-business-related degrees in the humanities and social sciences."

### **Policy on Increasing Funding for Public Transit**

**WHEREAS** due to globalization the present reality is that cities and city-regions have become the economic engines of both provinces and Canada as a whole. Cities no longer compete regionally for business investment; instead, they compete globally. Because by the year 2020 85%-90% of Canadians will live in an urban environment it is of the utmost importance that Canadian cities remain globally competitive and attractive to business investment.

**WHEREAS** the negative costs directly relating to car use (such as traffic congestion, environmental degradation, reduced health of the individual, and social inequity) are increasing and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future

**WHEREAS** the increasing costs related to the use of the automobile will negatively affect both individuals and business. Increased costs related to business will decrease a cities economic competitiveness and thus negatively affect the individual by reducing employment opportunities; as well as their overall standard of living

**WHEREAS** negative externalities associated with car use will increase in the coming years due to an estimated rise of car ownership in urban areas by an amount of nearly 3% annually

**WHEREAS** future automobiles (ie. hybrid, electric, hydrogen) may reduce certain types of emitted pollutants such as carbon dioxide but they will not lead to reductions in traffic congestion or social inequity

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Ontario Young Liberals urge the Federal Government of Canada to significantly increase funding for public transit in order to reduce the negative impact that the automobile is currently having on urban areas across the country

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** emphasising the importance of public transit by increasing funding will assist existing national political strategies which currently attempt to address the following issues: reducing environmental degradation, increasing economic competitiveness, reducing social inequities, ensuring individuals are and remain healthy

### **Policy on Food Production Organic Subsidies**

**WHEREAS**, organic foods are a healthier alternative to their large-scale counterparts;

**WHEREAS**, organic farming requires more funding than traditional methods, therefore the cost is higher;

**WHEREAS**, the support of local industries is a key factor in maintaining a healthy economy;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Government of Canada will work to create a subsidy or tax break for organic farms in Canada in order for them to be more competitive in the market, and more accessible to Canadians.

### **Policy on Pesticide**

**WHEREAS** Neonicotinoid Pesticides are applied to seeds and are prevalent in high levels plants to do considerable damage to honey bees;

**WHEREAS** these Pesticides are designed to affect memories of insects and have been found to disrupt the abilities of bees to function and if bees are exposed to high levels over time they will fall to the ground with spasms and not be able to fly;

**WHEREAS** honey bees are important to humans as the production of honey pollinates most of the crops in the western world and without pollination these crops would cease to produce food;

**WHEREAS** many countries in Europe have already banned the use of these systemic pesticides;

**WHEREAS** the rapidly shrinking population of honey bees needed to pollinate our plants will result in decrease in the supply of many crops and will drive food prices.

**WHEREAS** developing safer pesticides and using alternatives will help to save honey bees and save consumers money at the supermarket.

**WHEREAS** banning Neonicotinoid would also help protect Canadians from the unknown long term health risks of consuming these pesticides for a prolonged period of time; therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Government of Canada institute a national ban of Neonicotinoid.

### **Policy on the Decriminalization of Sex Work in Canada**

**WHEREAS** sex work is a legitimate form of work like any other;

**WHEREAS** laws in Canada make it impossible to practice sex work both safely and legally;

**WHEREAS** sex workers are often afraid to report crimes committed against them due to fear of being arrested themselves;

**WHEREAS** prostitution is the only form of consensual sexual adult activity effectively outlawed by the state;

**WHEREAS** the “Living off the Avails” law criminalizes the friends, families, roommates, and partners of sex workers;

**WHEREAS** countries such as New Zealand that have decriminalized prostitution experience lower rates of coercion, trafficking, child prostitution, and violence against sex workers; therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the laws in the Criminal Code against Communicating for the Purpose of Prostitution (Sec. 213), Living off the Avails (Sec. 212) and Keeping a Common Bawdy-House (Sec. 210) should be overturned;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** sex workers should be able to work both independently and in groups;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** sex work should be treated like any other form of work in Canada, with appropriate health and safety regulations, reasonable taxation like any other form of income as opposed to heavy "sin taxes", and the right to unionize;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** violence, human trafficking, extortion and child prostitution will not be tolerated;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** all sex workers enjoy full rights as Canadians.

### **Policy on Sri Lanka-Tamil Issues**

**WHEREAS** on January 16, 2009 the Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) formally withdrew from a cease-fire and peace talks facilitated by the Norwegian Government since 2002 consequently undermining the Tamil aspirations for self-determination as enshrined in the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights; and

**WHEREAS** Amnesty International estimates that currently 50,000 civilians are trapped in a tiny sliver of land three kilometers long, and endure constant Sri Lankan Armed Forces bombings, artillery fire, and aerial bombardment which has led to over 6,500 deaths and more than 13,000 injuries; and

**WHEREAS** the GoSL has banned journalists, the United Nations (UN), and humanitarian organizations in the northern Vanni regions subsequently leaving the world uninformed about the full extent of the current humanitarian crisis; and

**WHEREAS** the GoSL embargo on food, water, medicine, electricity, and tents has worsened the plight of the Tamil civilians in the northern Vanni regions; and

**WHEREAS** UNICEF indicates that thousands of children are unable to attend school and are trapped in the northern regions lacking food, water, and basic medicinal supplies such as anesthetic and antibiotics; and

**WHEREAS** on Tuesday May 5, 2009 the Canadian Government pledged \$3 million to the Sri Lankan Government to assist with emergency humanitarian aid; and

**WHEREAS** on the night of Saturday May 9, 2009 and the morning of Sunday May 10, 2009 Sri Lankan Armed Forces shelling killed more than 2000 civilians; and

**WHEREAS** on Wednesday May 13, 2009 a make-shift hospital was targeted by Sri Lankan Armed Forces artillery and more 100 civilians were killed, including many children, medical staff, voluntary doctor, and an International Committee of the Red Cross worker; and

**WHEREAS** 300,000 civilians are being held in Tamil refugee camps unable to return to their land; and

**WHEREAS** a founding principle of the Young Liberals is to stand for progressive and forward-thinking policies and we support peace and stand in solidarity with youths and civilians whose lives and education have been obstructed by war; and

**WHEREAS** a significantly large number of our members have been directly impacted by the genocide in Sri Lanka; therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Young Liberals call upon the Canadian Government to: demand that the Sri Lankan Government allows independent media, the UN, and humanitarian organizations into the Northern Vanni regions of Sri Lanka to ensure that aid money is being used for humanitarian reasons, not military objectives; and demand that the Sri Lankan Government drop its military objectives and re-enter into an immediate and permanent internationally monitored cease-fire and peace negotiations to avert further bloodshed and recognize the Tamil minority's right to self-determination

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Young Liberals encourages member locals to inform and educate members of parliament about the genocide of Tamil civilians in Sri Lanka; and write to the foreign affairs department and to the Prime Minister of Canada to condemn the Sri Lankan Armed Forces genocide of Tamil civilians, pressure the Sri Lankan Government to find an immediate political solution for the Tamils in Sri Lanka

#### **Policy on GMOs, Food Labelling Practices and Consumer Knowledge (Federal)**

**WHEREAS** there is currently no requirement in Canada for the labeling of genetically modified products (GMO), products sold at regular grocery stores, as being such; and

**WHEREAS** there is good reason to believe that GMOs are potentially harmful to human beings and the environment overall; and

**WHEREAS** Canadians are unable to make informed purchasing decisions that affect them most directly because of the non-existence of a disclosure requirement in this regard;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** there is a revision and a subsequent amendment to the current legislation which would require sellers to disclose to Canadians whether the products that they are selling are GMOs or not.

#### **Investment in youth entrepreneurs to develop Ontario's knowledge economy (Provincial)**

**WHEREAS** the youth are recognized as the agents of the future economy

**WHEREAS** entrepreneurs are found to be the primary agents to generate wealth and capital

**WHEREAS** youth and young adults ages 17-25 have the most potential and capacity to shape Ontario's knowledge economy

**WHEREAS** business and trade skills classes are currently offered in secondary schools across Ontario

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** additional funding is granted towards the creation of more business classes and entrepreneurial programs in Ontario secondary schools

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that youth are encouraged in all areas of studies to consider taking on entrepreneurial and creativity-led activities

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Ontario government encourages and supports mentorship projects and programs to allow for young individuals in society to work alongside with the private sector.

### **Policy on an Increase to Science Funding**

**WHEREAS** the Harper government has put \$5 billion toward infrastructure (improving/building labs at colleges and universities) while they also cut funding to agencies by 5% taking a toll on many researchers

**WHEREAS** this lack of funding is leading to a surge in the brain drain to the US, where President Obama is actively encouraging and supporting scientific research, most of the infrastructure, labs and facilities, are often left empty.

**WHEREAS** as the Harper government has reduced funding towards basic research and has moved it towards directed research thereby decreasing valuable general research that often leads to unintended breakthroughs.

**WHEREAS** many of the new funds provided by the Harper government contain a requirement that infrastructure funding be matched dollar for dollar by the universities; leading to infrastructure spending at the expense of spending on teaching, training and research.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Liberal Party reverse the Harper Government's funding cuts to the sciences and more specifically to funding boards such as NSERC (National Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada), CIHR (Canadian Institutes of Health Research) and Genome Canada.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that funds are redirected to include more general research because there are countless examples of basic research with no goal intended leading to great medical or technological advances.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the matched funds requirement for universities be reduced or eliminated to an amount that will not divert significant funds from other important areas.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Liberal Party take greater initiative to fund and encourage scientific research.

### **Tax Incentive for Parents with Children in French Immersion Programs**

**WHEREAS** Canada is a proudly bilingual nation,

**WHEREAS** French Immersion programs in elementary and secondary schools allow for the opportunity for students to become proficient in a second language,

**WHEREAS** these schools are commonly few and centralized, at times creating a significant logistical barrier,

**WHEREAS** the commitment to enrol and support children in a French Immersion curriculum is a sizable one,

**WHEREAS** as Trudeau stated, "...a bilingual state is more expensive than a unilingual one — but it is a richer state",

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the OYL urge the Government of Ontario to introduce an annual tax incentive for parents who enrol their children in both elementary and secondary French Immersion Programs,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the OYL encourage the Government of Ontario to support Ontario universities in expansion and development projects focused on accommodating new graduates of French Immersion programs.

### **Policy on the creation of a Decentralized Electric Grid**

**WHEREAS** today's current electricity depends on non-renewable sources

**WHEREAS** buildings are among the biggest producers of Greenhouse Gas Emissions

**WHEREAS** we must do more to advance our energy infrastructure to enable us to combat climate change and make energy more affordable

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Ontario Young Liberals call for the creation of a smart grid electric system that will enable the consumer to both buy and sell energy in the marketplace

### **Policy on the Protection of Citizen's Rights Abroad**

**WHEREAS** the rights of citizenship are universal and cannot be removed unless through due process in accordance with the rule of law

**WHEREAS** there is a duty of the state and thereby the government of the day to protect and defend the rights of citizens both in Canada and abroad

**WHEREAS** all Canadians are equal in legal status without regard to the time they have been a citizen, or where they reside.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Ontario Young Liberals call on the Government of Canada to enact and follow existing policies and practices that ensure all Canadians enjoy the benefits of citizenship at home and abroad

### **Policy on the Spring Bear Hunt**

**WHEREAS** the Government of Ontario estimates that the population of black bears in Ontario is the largest in North America. Before the Spring Bear Hunt was cancelled in 1999 the bear population numbered between 75 000 and 100 000.

**WHEREAS** the Spring Bear Hunt helps to control and regulate the bear population.

**WHEREAS**, according to the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, controlling the bear population through the Spring Bear Hunt helps entire ecosystems. When the population is less sizable, it limits competition between bears for food. This also helps other wildlife like moose and deer, that are unable to survive when the growing bear population hunts them for food.

**WHEREAS** it is already illegal to hunt a female bear with her cubs.

**WHEREAS**, due to the overpopulation of bears, most Northern communities find that nuisance bears enter their communities in search for food. These bears damage houses and cottages, make messes with garbage and garbage dumps, and even wound and kill humans and domestic animals.

**WHEREAS** the police and the Ministry of Natural Resource must preoccupy themselves with calls to trap and kill bear too close to human populations.

**WHEREAS** the Spring Bear Hunt helps the economy of Northern Ontario, a region that is already suffering for a lack of jobs and economic activity. Before the

Spring Bear Hunt was cancelled in 1999, bear hunters stimulated the Northern economy through paying for their lodging, guides and food while visiting the North for spring hunting trips. Without the Spring Bear Hunt, the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters estimates that the Northern Ontario economic has lost between 350 and 500 million dollars.

**WHEREAS**, municipal, provincial and federal government profit from about 4 million dollars each year in taxes from the Spring Bear Hunt.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the provincial Liberal government reinstate a regulated Spring Bear Hunt.

### **Policy on Pay Equity**

**WHEREAS** women have now reached an equal position in society regarding constitutional rights and opportunities;

**WHEREAS** women now have equal opportunities to pursue a career and attain professional positions equal to that of men but do not receive equal pay or compensation;

**WHEREAS** many women are still segregated into a jobs which are underpaid and undervalued in society;

**WHEREAS** the wage gap between men and women is increasing, in 2006 men received a median annual income of \$42,261 while women received \$32,515;

**WHEREAS** pay equity will not detract from the pay of other individuals in the work place; rather, it would ensure equal treatment for all workers;

**WHEREAS** the Pay Equity Act has been passed and enforced within provinces such as Ontario, but the issue has yet to reach a federal level of recognition;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Liberal Party of Canada strongly urge the Government of Canada to address the issue of pay equity on a federal level;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to address the significant inequality of pay for women in the workplace;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Liberal Party of Canada urge the Government of Canada to participate with provinces to draft legislation to address this issue based on their successes in past acts or legislation.

### **OHIP Optometry Services Funding**

**WHEREAS** OHIP funding for Optometry services was discontinued for residents of Ontario aged 20-64, effective November 1<sup>st</sup>. 2004

**WHEREAS** The population of Ontario is aging, thus in need of more comprehensive healthcare

**WHEREAS** Preventative examinations and treatment will improve the health and wellbeing of Ontarians *and* save the Ontario health system money in the long run

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** OHIP funding is reinstated for Optometry Services including eye examinations for Ontarians, regardless of age

### **Policy on Greater Access to Jobs for New Teachers**

**WHEREAS** over 12,000 new teachers are certified by the Ontario College of Teachers each year;

**WHEREAS** enrolment in Ontario schools declined by 90,000 students between 2002-03 and 2008-09;

**WHEREAS** the Ontario Ministry of Education projects that enrolment is projected to decline by another 56,000 students between 2008-09 and 2012-13;

**WHEREAS** lower enrolment in Ontario schools means fewer jobs for new Ontario teachers;

**WHEREAS** current regulations allow retired teachers to collect a full pension and return to work for up to 95 days per school year in each of the first three years that they return to work and 20 days per school year in following years;

**WHEREAS** this practice of “double dipping” takes available occasional teaching positions away from new teachers entering the job market, leaving some without jobs and without the opportunity to gain needed experience;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the OYL urge the Government of Ontario to increase access to jobs for new teachers by capping the number of days that retired teachers can return to work at 20 days per school year beginning in the first year that the teacher returns to work.

### **Policy on Empowering the North**

**WHEREAS** economic opportunities represent the aspirations and strengths of citizens who reside in the Arctic.

**WHEREAS** the people of the arctic represent the human aspect of Canada's arctic sovereignty claim.

**WHEREAS** it is estimated that Nunavut alone contains 15% of Canada's oil and gas reserves.

**WHEREAS** the Sverdrup Basin is estimated to be worth over a trillion dollars.

**WHEREAS** the Territorial governments do not have control over these resources unlike their provincial counterparts.

**WHEREAS** revenue generated from these resources can be used to further develop sustainable community growth and infrastructure in the arctic; thus, increasing our claim to the Arctic.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Liberal Party of Canada campaign to provide more funds and greater autonomy for the territories with respect to natural resources.

#### **Policy on Electronic Health Records for all Canadians**

**WHEREAS** possessing strong information infrastructure is essential to modernizing health care in Canada;<sup>1</sup>

**WHEREAS** electronic health records promote better and more timely access to care;<sup>2</sup>

**WHEREAS** the Calgary Health Region in 2002 claimed that "30% of nursing time is spent managing paper records. Just a 5% reduction in the time nurses spend doing charts could free up the equivalent of 90 nursing positions and generate \$5 million a year in savings;"<sup>3</sup>

**WHEREAS** electronic health records ensure more current and accurate information for health care professionals;<sup>4</sup>

**WHEREAS** information privacy and security must be a vital part of implementing electronic health records; and,

**WHEREAS** U.S. President Barack Obama has committed to introducing electronic health records within five years for all Americans in an effort "to lower health care cost, cut medical errors, and improve care;"<sup>5</sup>

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Liberal Party of Canada, its agents and affiliates, commit to the implementation of electronic health records for all Canadians.

#### **Policy on Diplomatic Countermeasures Against Perpetrators of Mass Violations of Human Rights and Genocide**

**WHEREAS** Canada should again play the role of the world's champion of human rights and peace;

**WHEREAS** it is against the nature of a democratic society and government to ignore brutal abuse and violation of the universally recognized humanitarian principles;

**WHEREAS** the possibilities of the Canadian government to intervene on behalf of those humanitarian principles is rather limited;

**WHEREAS** the international law proscribes the practice of implementing diplomatic countermeasures for countries that cannot enforce peace and human rights, but do not wish and cannot afford to ignore and legitimize these violations;

**WHEREAS** Canada has great diplomatic potential and good image in the World, since it never possessed colonies and has a long history of diplomatic efforts to advocate peace, human rights, stability, and rule of law in the world

**WHEREAS** the World needs a wise Canada to take the lead in promoting universally recognized principles;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Canadian government expresses its legitimate concerns about mass human right violations, and violation of the laws of war in Chechnya, Sri-Lanka, Sudan, Tibet etc;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Canadian government takes action to recognize situations of grave violations of international humanitarian and treaty law as illegitimate;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Canadian government takes steps to recognize the brutal and mass oppression of civilian populations as illegitimate and contrary to the spirit of humanity;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Canadian government imposes sanctions on the government officials directly involved in the crimes against humanity and genocide;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** Canada makes a diplomatic effort to revitalize diplomatic efforts in the United Nations aimed at providing humanitarian relief and protection for the world's poor and oppressed;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** Canada is to take its traditional place in the World as the wise leader and champion of the principles of human rights and rule of law;

### **Policy on an International Energy Bank**

**WHEREAS** enriched uranium creates the by-product, plutonium. Both substances are used to make nuclear weapons. These weapons should not be produced.

**WHEREAS** every country has the right to a peaceful, domestic nuclear power program.

**WHEREAS** nuclear reactors run on uranium rods in approximately five year periods, at which time the energy in the rods needs to be replenished.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Canada help establish an international energy bank managed by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to dispense and collect uranium rods. These rods would be dispensed indiscriminately given that the countries set to receive them allow frequent inspection of their nuclear facilities. This would regulate nuclear power supplies and limit the proliferation of nuclear technologies. This also provides an alternative to fossil fuels.

### **Policy for an Integrated Public School System in Ontario**

**WHEREAS** it is unfair to publicly fund a group of schools that are affiliated with one religion without funding all religiously affiliated schools;

**WHEREAS** former Protestant schools in Ontario have become fully public;

**WHEREAS** funding all or any faith based school is against the spirit secular government and education;

**WHEREAS** a segregated Catholic school board is discriminatory and against the spirit of multiculturalism;

**WHEREAS** religion is a matter of private and personal interest;

**WHEREAS** parents are free to send their children to a religiously affiliated school at their own expense;

**WHEREAS** public funding for Catholic schools presents a value added and an unfair advantage for parents who want to send their children to a Catholic school;

**WHEREAS** one integrated and secular system can lead to economies of scale;

**WHEREAS** publicly funded education up to high school is in the interest of the public and publicly funded faith-based education up to high school is not in the interest of the public;

**WHEREAS** Ontarians have made it clear that they do not support the funding of all faith based schools as per the outcome of the 2007 Ontario election;

**WHEREAS** Section 15(1) entitle "Equality Rights" of the Constitution Act, 1982 implicitly overrules the 1867 BNA Act provision within Section 93 for publicly funded Catholic schools;

**WHEREAS** in June 2005, Quebec passed Bill 95, which eliminated all religious instruction from public schools in the province;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the OYL urge the Government of Ontario to integrate the Catholic school board into a single secular public school board.

### **Policy on Canadian Mining Accountability**

**WHEREAS** a large number of multinational mining corporations are headquartered in Canada.

**WHEREAS** Canada, via Canadian financial markets, is an important global player in the financing of multinational mining corporations

**WHEREAS** some Canadian mining multinationals, like the now defunct "BRE-X", have engaged in fraudulent activities in Canada and abroad.

**WHEREAS** some Canadian mining multinationals have been found guilty of breaching environmental laws in Canada and abroad. For example, "Goldcorp Inc" has been found guilty of polluting waters in Red Lake, Ontario, Canada, Also, a Honduran subsidiary of "Goldcorp Inc" named "Minerales Entre Mares" has been found guilty of polluting waters in Honduras

**WHEREAS** a number of Canadian mining multinationals have been accused of serious human rights violations in Canada and abroad. For example, farmers and community members from the Intag valley of Ecuador have faced serious threats as a result of their opposition to a mining project proposed by the "Copper Mesa Mining Corporation". Also, a Guatemalan subsidiary of "Goldcorp Inc" named "Montana Exploradora" has been accused of not respecting the democratic will of indigenous communities opposed to the development and further expansion of a mine in Guatemala.

**WHEREAS** Canada's regulation of mining companies is more lax than the United States of America's regulation of mining companies. For example, regulations concerning the public declaration of mineral reserves held by corporations are more lax in Canada than in the US.

**WHEREAS** the lax regulation of Canada's mining multinationals allows these corporations and their employees to escape legal responsibility for their

actions. In the book "Noir Canada", Canada is labeled a "judicial paradise" for mining companies and mining company executives.

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Liberal party of Canada work to implement all recommendations of the 14th report of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade of the House of Commons of Canada.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Liberal party of Canada prioritize the establishment of clear legal norms in Canada to ensure that Canadian companies and residents are held accountable when there is evidence of environmental and /or human rights violations, in Canada or abroad, associated with the activities of Canadian mining companies or any subsidiary thereof. Victims of environmental damage or human rights violations resulting from the activities of Canadian mining companies anywhere in the world should be allowed to sue these companies in Canadian courts.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** that the Liberal party of Canada work to prohibit the financing of mining companies whose operations are likely to lead to harms to the environment or to human rights violations wherever these operations are located.